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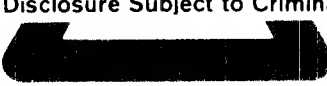


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**MAJOR EXPANSION  
NIKOLAYEV PORT FACILITIES SOUTH, USSR (SWN)**

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1. **SIGNIFICANCE:** TWO NEW BASINS HAVE RECENTLY BEEN COMPLETED AT NIKOLAYEV PORT FACILITIES SOUTH WITH ONLY CONSTRUCTION OF THE QUAY WALLS AND STORAGE AREAS REMAINING. THE EXPANSION OF NIKOLAYEV PORT WILL INCREASE THE EFFICIENCY OF THE FACILITY BY DECREASING TURNAROUND TIME OF SHIPS WHICH WILL ELIMINATE DELAYS IN BERTHING. ADDITIONALLY, THE SOVIETS WILL HAVE THE CAPABILITY TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF MERCHANT SHIPS TRANSITING THIS PORT FROM THE PRESENT FIVE TO APPROXIMATELY 15, THEREBY SIGNIFICANTLY INCREASING ARMS DELIVERIES. NIKOLAYEV PORT FACILITIES SOUTH IS THE SOVIETS MAIN ARMS EXPORTING FACILITY AND ACCOUNTS FOR APPROXIMATELY 90 PERCENT OF THE ANNUAL SOVIET ARMS EXPORT ACTIVITY. (SWN)
2. **REMARKS:** THE PRESENT EXPANSION OF NIKOLAYEV PORT FACILITIES WAS FIRST OBSERVED IN LATE MARCH 1983, WHEN TWO SUCTION DREDGES WERE OPERATING IN THE AREA NORTH OF THE NORTH MOLE. ONE DREDGE WAS APPARENTLY EXPANDING THE NORTH MOLE, WHILE THE OTHER WAS FORMING A LANDFILL PERPENDICULAR TO THE NORTH MOLE. THE DREDGES THEN BEGAN FORMING THE NEW NORTH BASIN WITH LANDFILL OPERATIONS CONTINUING ALONG THE SHORELINE. THIS NEW BASIN AREA WAS COMPLETED IN EARLY AUGUST 1983 AND THE PLACEMENT OF PILINGS FOR THE QUAY WALLS WAS BEGUN IN MID-APRIL 1984. (SWN)

RELATED ACTIVITY ON SHORE ADJACENT TO THE NORTH BASIN INCLUDES THE CONSTRUCTION OF A RAIL SPUR LEADING FROM THE MAIN RAIL LINE INTO THE AREA. IN ADDITION, THE LANDFILLING AND GRADING OF THE GROUND INDICATES THAT THIS BASIN WILL PROBABLY INCLUDE ONE NEW ROLL-ON ROLL-OFF (RO-RO) QUAY AND AT LEAST TWO NEW BERTHING POSITIONS. OPEN STORAGE OF VEHICLES AND/OR EQUIPMENT WILL AT LEAST DOUBLE THE PRESENT OPEN STORAGE CAPACITY FOR EQUIPMENT AWAITING SHIPMENT. (SWN)

CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW SOUTH BASIN WAS FIRST OBSERVED IN LATE MARCH 1984 WHEN A SUCTION DREDGE WAS DEPOSITING SPOIL ON THE SHORE LINE, SOUTH OF THE SOUTH MOLE. THE CONSTRUCTION INCLUDED EXTENSIVE LANDFILLING FOR THE FORMATION OF TWO BREAKWATERS AND AN OUTWARD EXTENSION OF THE SHORE LINE. THIS BASIN WAS COMPLETED IN EARLY DECEMBER. THE AREA NORTH OF THE SOUTH BASIN

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WILL PROBABLY BE FILLED, EXTENDING IT TO THE SOUTH MOLE. PILINGS HAVE NOT YET BEEN PLACED FOR THE FORMATION OF QUAY WALLS AT THIS BASIN. THE SOUTH BASIN IS ADJACENT TO THE MUNITIONS STORAGE AREA AND, AS YET, THERE IS NO INDICATION OF EXTENDING A RAIL LINE INTO THE AREA. WHEN COMPLETED, THIS BASIN WILL PROBABLY BE CAPABLE OF BERTHING AT LEAST FOUR MERCHANT SHIPS. THE EARLY STAGES OF CONSTRUCTION ON SHORE PRECLUDE AN INDICATION OF THE USE OF THE NEW STORAGE AREAS. (SWN)

ADDITIONALLY, THERE ARE TWO AREAS OF MAJOR CONSTRUCTION IN THE PORT SUPPORT FACILITY. ONE AREA, NORTHEAST OF THE PRESENT RO-RO QUAY, HAS TWO LARGE BUILDINGS UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND A SECOND AREA, SOUTHEAST OF THE RO-RO QUAY, HAS AT LEAST THREE BUILDINGS IN THE EARLY STAGES OF CONSTRUCTION. (SWN)

ANALYST'S COMMENTS -- THE MOST DIFFICULT PORTION OF THIS EXPANSION, THE FORMATION OF THE BASINS AND EXTENSION OF THE SHORE LINES OUTWARD, HAS BEEN COMPLETED. THE GRADING AND PLACING OF PILINGS FOR THE QUAY WALLS ON THE NEW NORTH BASIN INDICATES THAT IT WILL PROBABLY BE OPERATIONAL FIRST AND, WITH THE ONSET OF WINTER, WILL PROBABLY BE COMPLETED IN EARLY SPRING 1985. WORK ON THE NEW SOUTH BASIN LANDFILL APPEARS TO HAVE BEEN ACCELERATED IN THE PAST TWO MONTHS; HOWEVER, WITH THE LACK OF PILINGS FOR THE QUAY WALLS, IT IS ESTIMATED THIS BASIN WILL PROBABLY NOT BE OPERATIONAL UNTIL MID-1985. (SWN)

3.  COORDINATES 46-49-57N 031-56-57E (S)

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4. ANALYST: 

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